

I want to testify in support of SB 237, which bans the storage of fracking waste in Connecticut. I believe the only safe course of action when dealing with fracking waste is to prevent it from being treated, disposed of, or stored in our state. This waste is hazardous, toxic and potentially radioactive. We really do not know what it contains since the chemicals used in fracking are proprietary knowledge.

That is why I cannot support Bill 5308. How can anyone possibly guarantee the safe treatment of toxic waste when it is laced with unknown elements many of which are potentially a grave threat to the health and well being of our Connecticut families? Treatment of this waste is not the place for experimentation, or trial and error. The consequences of failure are too great and put public health at dangerous risk.

I also fear that if this bill passes, the treatment plants or storage facilities will be located in low-income areas. Let those legislators, who vote for this bill, welcome the storage facilities and treatments plants in their districts. Actually, the whole state would be at risk because of the inherent danger in transporting this hazardous waste.

SB 237 points the way to correct public policy with regard to toxic fracking waste. Keep it out of our state. Let those who produced the waste deal with it. Our state must use our limited financial resources to improve the quality of life for all of our citizens by improving schools, repairing roads and bridges, etc. Taxpayers should not be asked to subsidize the industry, which produces this hazardous waste.

The wording of the bill on fracking waste, which was introduced last year, provided a stronger framework. I recommend that language be incorporated into this year's bill.

I urge the members of this committee and all of our legislators, to stand in protection of our Connecticut families. To act to allow fracking waste into our state is a violation of their duty to protect and promote the health and well being of Connecticut residents. Toxic Fracking waste should not be welcomed to or accepted in our dear state of Connecticut. Thank you

.Sister Rose Mary Sullivan, CND

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